

UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Leadership...Service...Accountability

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Education Leadership Summit Participants

FROM: Larry Shumway, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DATE: September 28, 2009

RE: Preview Information for September 30 Leadership Summit

Thank you in advance for taking part in the education summit beginning at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 30 at Murray High School, 5440 South State Street.

As you can see from the enclosed agenda, much of the summit will be spent in small working groups, each with a unique focus. You will be pre-assigned to one of the groups. Below are examples of the proposed discussion questions, although the working groups will determine whether additional questions are necessary.

Discussion Groups

Group A: Implementing College and Career Ready Standards and Assessments

1. What conditions (i.e., systems of governance, resources, and structures) need to be in place to ensure that all students are taught using rigorous standards and assessments to guide their learning.
2. What policies or initiatives are needed to support full implementation of rigorous standards and assessments?
3. How would you prioritize these policies and initiatives to attain the most leverage for student achievement?

Group B: Providing High Quality Instruction for All Students

1. What conditions (i.e., systems of governance, resources, and structures) need to be in place to provide high quality teachers and leaders for all students?
2. What policies or initiatives are needed to support these conditions?
3. How would you prioritize these policies and initiatives to attain the most leverage for student achievement?

Group C: Improving Struggling Schools

1. What conditions (i.e., systems of governance, resources, and structures) need to be in place to turn around struggling schools in Utah?
2. What policies or initiatives are needed to support these conditions?
3. How would you prioritize these policies and initiatives to attain the most leverage for improving struggling schools?

Group D: Developing Unified Goals for Public Education

1. What conditions (i.e., systems of governance, resources, and structures) need to be in place to ensure that all stakeholders work together to improve public schools in Utah?
2. What policies or initiatives are needed to support these conditions?
3. How would you prioritize these policies and initiatives to attain the most leverage for unified goals for public education?

These discussions should be thought-provoking and instructive for all of us as we strive to improve learning opportunities for Utah students. A facilitated panel conversation about the work group discussion will conclude the evening.

Thank you again for your commitment to Utah students.